

Application of: Ruff, Kenneth J.
Serial No.: 10/065,857
Response to Restriction Requirement

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously amended) An accessory for wild birds formed from a plurality of ceramic clay flowerpots disposed in preselected relation to each other, the accessory comprising:

a receptacle formed from a first ceramic clay flowerpot, the receptacle defining an interior and having a first end and a second end and a continuous side wall of the receptacle extending between the first end and the second end of the receptacle, the continuous side wall having a plurality of through openings of preselected sizes disposed at preselected positions; and

a top formed of a second ceramic clay flowerpot positioned coaxially and adjacent to the first end of the receptacle and opening downwardly, said second flowerpot being connected to the first flowerpot forming the accessory.

2. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, wherein the top is disposed in position for normal use of the accessory at the first end of the receptacle to provide a cover for the accessory.

3. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 2, wherein the top includes a ceramic clay flowerpot saucer inverted over the first end of the receptacle.

4. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1 including a bottom formed of a ceramic clay flowerpot and disposed in an upright position for normal use of the accessory at the second end of the receptacle said bottom being connected to at least one of the top and the receptacle.

5. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 4, wherein the bottom includes a third ceramic clay flowerpot saucer.

6. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 4, wherein the bottom includes a third ceramic clay flowerpot of the type known as a cactus pot.

7. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 4, wherein the bottom includes a third ceramic clay flowerpot of the type known as a muffin pot.

8. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 4, wherein the bottom includes a third ceramic clay flowerpot of the type known as a bell pot.

9. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, wherein at least some of the through openings are disposed, spaced apart from one another, around the perimeter of the receptacle and serve to enhance airflow through the accessory.

10. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 4, wherein the bottom has at least one drainage hole to prevent buildup of water inside the interior.

11. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, and further comprising, at least one fourth ceramic clay flowerpot inside at least a portion of the interior of the receptacle.

12. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 11, wherein the accessory is a bird house and the fourth ceramic clay flowerpot inside of the receptacle is disposed at the first end of the receptacle, right-side up, and serves to maintain the top slightly spacedly from the first end of the receptacle so as to enhance airflow between the top and an upper rim of the fourth ceramic clay flowerpot inside the receptacle.

13. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 11, wherein the accessory is a bird feeder and the fourth ceramic clay flowerpot inside of the receptacle is disposed interior at the first end of the receptacle, right-side up, and has a bottom surface with a plurality of through openings disposed spaced-apart from one another and of sufficient size to permit facile flow-through of bird seed.

14. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 11, wherein the accessory is a bird feeder and the receptacle is formed of a ceramic clay flowerpot disposed right-side up and the fourth ceramic clay flowerpot inside of the receptacle is disposed at the second end of the receptacle, up-side down, to thereby prevent bird seed in the receptacle from settling onto an interior bottom surface of the receptacle where the bird seed could become wet.

15. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, wherein the accessory is a birdhouse and wherein the plurality of through openings in the sidewall includes an opening which is larger than the others of said plurality of through openings and which is sized and placed for facile access to and egress from the interior of the receptacle by a bird.

16. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 15, wherein said larger through opening is sized and placed appropriately for access by a bluebird.

17. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 15, wherein said larger opening is sized and placed appropriately for access by a wren.

18. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 15, wherein the accessory is a birdhouse and the receptacle is disposed in an upside-down position, and includes a bottom

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formed of a fifth ceramic clay flowerpot wherein the bottom of the accessory is formed of a bell pot connected to a depending end portion of the receptacle.

19. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 15, wherein the accessory is a birdhouse and the receptacle is disposed in an upside-down position and includes a bottom formed of a fifth ceramic clay flowerpot wherein the bottom is formed of a cactus pot connected to a depending end portion of the receptacle.

20. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 15, wherein the accessory is a birdhouse and the receptacle is disposed in an upside-down flowerpot position and includes a bottom formed of a fifth ceramic clay flowerpot wherein the bottom is formed of a muffin pot connected right-side up to a depending end portion of the receptacle.

21. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, wherein the accessory is a bird feeder and at least some of the plurality of openings are sized and positioned appropriately around the perimeter of the receptacle to permit ready access by a bird to birdseed disposed within the receptacle.

22. (Original) The accessory of claim 21, wherein the openings which are sized for birdseed are sized for oil sunflower seeds.

23. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 21, wherein the openings which are sized for birdseed are sized for thistle seeds.

24. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 1, wherein the accessory has exterior surfaces and certain of the exterior surfaces of the accessory are made waterproof.

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25. (Previously amended) The accessory of claim 24, wherein the accessory is provided with a silicone coating, on certain of the exterior surfaces thereof.

26. (Previously amended) The method of making an accessory for wild birds, the method comprising the steps of :

providing a receptacle formed from a first ceramic clay flowerpot, the receptacle having a first end and a second end and a side wall of the receptacle extending between the first end and the second end of the receptacle, the side wall having a plurality of through openings of preselected sizes disposed at preselected positions;

providing a top formed of a second ceramic clay flowerpot; and

positioning the top coaxially and adjacent the first end of the receptacle.